

BU9-98-118CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re continuation patent application of 09/162,215 filed on September 28, 1998

Darden

Serial No.: Not yet assigned                          Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: Concurrently herewith                          Examiner: Unknown

For: A SAME NET SPACING VIOLATION CHECKER

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE TITLE:**

Please amend the title to read --SPACING VIOLATION CHECKER--.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, after line 3, insert the following:

**-- Cross-Reference To Related Applications**

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial Number 09/162,215 filed September 28, 1998. --

On page 1, line 9, before "Older" insert - - A net can be defined as a set of logically connected shapes (typically terminals on logic gates) which are electrically connected when modeled physically. --

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Please substitute the attached formal drawings (3 sheets, containing Figs. 1-12) for the drawings which were originally filed with the parent application. The drawings originally filed with the parent application are attached to a copy of the originally filed specification which are included herewith.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2, 8, 14, and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

**REMARKS**

The above changes to the claims have been made to cancel claims being prosecuted in separate applications. This Preliminary Amendment leaves claims 1, 3-7, 9-13, 15-19 and 21-24 pending in the present application.

The prior application is assigned of record to International Business Machines Corp., Armonk, New York, recorded on September 28, 1998, at Reel 9508, Frame 0565.

Early and favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

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Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's  
Deposit Account No. 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,



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